

Weapons Convention and just say no to dishonest diplomacy that makes our citizens feel secure while their danger increases.

Shrinking the government would yield many specific benefits. But these are not the main reasons why we should cut government.

We want to cut taxes not primarily because doing so will put more money in our pockets, but because it will put the means of freedom in our hands. We want to cut the government's power to grant privilege not primarily because privilege is economically inefficient, but because we don't want to be a nation of favor-seekers. We want to keep and bear our guns not because we want to shoot somebody, but because we have a right and duty to take care of ourselves. Moral leadership, today as in 1789, does not mean that the President of the United States forces anyone to go to church or synagogue. But it does mean that by word and deed he leads the country in giving unto God the things that are God's.

The dignity of citizenship has been co-opted by laws and rules. These confine and direct the lives of Americans away from liberty, faith, and prosperity, into behavior defined by the ruling classes as acceptable to them. Thus denied the gifts endowed by our Creator, we become sheep to be shepherded.

My friends and colleagues, we cannot succeed by proposing to take over management of the redistributionist state from the Democrats and pat ourselves on the back for doing it more efficiently. We must attack it root and branch. We cannot prevail by continuing to hand out the favors and the goodies, only fewer than the Democrats.

At this time when all too many Republican leaders have lost their way and don't know what to do except capitulate to forces of big government, it is up to conservative activities in this room to provide the nerve and backbone that the leadership so noticeably lacks.

I do not say this casually. The organization I founded when I retired from the Senate in 1995, *Frontiers of Freedom*, supported any number of conservative initiatives in the last Congress. But when the Republican leadership strayed, we did not hesitate in crossing swords, even with the Speaker of the House.

And so I say to you, where does the strength come from to be a vigilant conservative? From:

The dignity of citizenship
the passion of patriotism
the honor of freedom
the security of property
the joy of opportunity in a free society
the nurture of family
and the love of God.

These things belong to tomorrow no less than the past. Rise up my friends and demand that if Newt and Jack and the others will not lead us there . . . then by golly, get out of the way because that is our destination. That is the promise of conservatism.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ROMANIAN PARLIAMENT TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the United States' relationship with the Republic of Romania. Among the countries that were within the sphere of influence of the former Soviet

Union, Romania stands out as a country that has made a rapid transition from an authoritarian form of government to a democratic nation and from a centrally planned economy to a free market economy. The road that Romania has traveled to arrive at a point where they now have a democratically elected government and a growing free market economy has not been an easy one; however, the Romanian people have been steadfast in their determination to keep traveling down that road.

Today, Romania is seeking to join the ranks of countries that are members of NATO. Significantly, among Central and Eastern European countries, Romania was the first country to join the Partnership for Peace program. The Government of Romania has also reached out to its neighbors to insure regional peace as illustrated by their concluding a political bilateral treaty with Hungary and initialing a similar document with Ukraine. Romania should also be commended for its participation in the peace-keeping missions in Angola and Bosnia.

Membership in NATO is a primary goal of the Romanian Government and people. In April 1997, the Romanian Parliament, in a joint session of the Chamber of Deputies and Senate, unanimously passed an "Appeal of the Parliament of Romania to the United States House of Representatives." The Parliament's appeal to us was that the House support Romania in its efforts to gain NATO membership. I would ask my colleagues read this appeal by the Romanian Parliament so that they can gain a fuller appreciation of this friend of the United States that desires to join NATO so that they can more fully participate in the promotion of peace and stability in Europe:

APPEAL OF THE PARLIAMENT OF ROMANIA TO THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Now, at a time of crucial importance for Romania's destiny, we are writing, in hope and trust, to the members of the United States House of Representatives, having the profound conviction that the Romanian people will enjoy your help to build its future. Our country's choice for integration into NATO is a fundamental priority of the Romanian foreign policy, based on the natural and legitimate aspirations of the Romanian people to become a part of the Euro-Atlantic community of the states with which it shares the same values and principles of freedom and democracy.

Ours are strong arguments for having Romania included among the very first group of candidates—a democratic state governed by the rule of law, its internal stability, geo-strategic position, economic and military potential, the political consensus and massive popular support for NATO, the inter-ethnic harmony, a full civilian control over the army as well as over the institutions dealing with public order and national security, a high degree of interoperability with the armed forces of the Alliance.

The change of government following the November 1996 elections has demonstrated the consolidation and proper functioning of all institutions under the rule of law in Romania. Our new Executive has proved its commitment to a market economy and far-reaching economic reforms, all of which are oriented towards this objective—to accelerate privatization, to restructure economy, to facilitate foreign investment—and has succeeded to conduct an active and coherent foreign policy. Romania has established a solid partnership with Hungary, with the other applicant countries, and is now perfecting its framework of relations with

Ukraine whose stability and independence we regard as being essential for the security of this region. In this context, we will foster a dynamic dialogue and cooperation with the Russian Federation, in line with the new political relations existing on the European continent.

Romania is an active member of the various regional cooperation agreements, while its participation in the Partnership for Peace, in the peace-keeping missions in Angola and Bosnia and, more recently, in the protection force in Albania has shown its capability to make a contribution to strengthening the security and stability in this area as well as on the continent, to be a security builder and an important factor within the Euro-Atlantic security system.

We can assure you that we will undertake the costs of Romania's joining the Alliance structures. In response to the economic difficulties during transition, we have developed an ambitious and pragmatic economic program that has support from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, and gives prospects for a sustainable economic growth that will allow us to take the accession costs upon ourselves. Considering that Romania is, at present, one of the countries which is best prepared from the viewpoint of the criteria set for admission to the North Atlantic Alliance structures, we are submitting to you, before the Summit meeting in Madrid, our request to support Romania's application to be accepted as a member in the first round of NATO enlargement process.

Strongly believing that our appeal will find the desired interest and reception, we would like to assure you of our high consideration and extent our thanks for every action you may decide upon in order to back up our démarche.

This Appeal has been adopted by unanimous vote today, the 24th of April 1997, in a joint session of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate.

IN MEMORY OF FRANCES MARIE QUINN

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Frances Marie Quinn, who recently left us. Like many women of her generation, she began her family during World War II. While her husband, Coridon John Quinn II served his Nation across the world as a pilot, Frances gave birth to her first child. The Quinns had eight children and two of their sons carried on the family tradition of military service. That proud family tradition is now carried on by two of Frances' grandchildren.

After a full life marked by a strong family and care for her community, Frances passed away at the age of 76. Her family and friends will miss her greatly.

DES EDUCATION AND RESEARCH AMENDMENTS OF 1997

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce today the DES Education and Research Amendments of 1997.